Alberta Dept. of the Provincial Secretary

Edmonton, February 1st, 1947.

To
The Honourable Alfred J. Hooke, M.L.A.,
Provincial Secretary,
Edmonton, Alberta.

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Dear Sir:

I have the honour to submit a report of the chief transactions of the Department of the Provincial Secretary for the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1946, including statistics for the calendar year 1946 under The Companies Branch, Motor Vehicles Branch and The Amusements Act.

REVENUE	1945-1946
General Office:	
Change of Name Act	$ 2,691.25
Companies Act:	
Alberta Companies	33,828.88
Foreign Companies	11,204.46
Dominion Government Grants in lieu of:	
Railway Taxation Act	664,977.14
Surcharge on Railway Tax	57,678.09
Fuel Oil Tax Act	4,463,196.30
Garagemen's Lien Act	242.00
Trust Companies Act	110.00
Miscellaneous Extracts, Registrations, Searches etc.	2,295.45
Corporations Taxation Act:	
Miscellaneous Companies	711.85
Dominion Government Grant in lieu of:	
Banking Corporations Additional Taxation Act	147,750.00
Corporations Taxation Act	1,341,193.14
Corporations Additional Taxation Act	60,760.02
Amusements Tax Act:	
Amusements Tax	326,801.02
Pari-Mutuel Tax	77,614.50
Theatres Act:	
Censorship Fees	27,631.00
License Fees	15,011.98
Moving Picture Operators' License Fees	3,472.75
Vehicles and Highway Traffic Act:	
Commission on Sale of Gasoline Ration Books	7,669.78
Dealers Plates	10,075.00
Drivers' Licenses	161,462.75
Owners' Certificates	1,458,812.88
Transfer Fees	11,121.80
Miscellaneous Revenue	933.19
Alberta Insurance Act:	
Fire Company Licenses	93,645.00
Life Company Licenses	10,950.00
Agents' License Fees:	
Fire and Other Classes	21,717.00
Life	5,948.00
Dominion Government Grant in lieu of:	
Alberta Insurance Act	962.95
Fire Prevention Act:	12,003.68
Lightning Rod Act	346.63
Real Estate Agents' Licensing Act	4,009.00
Miscellaneous	364.02
Total	$ 9,037.211.51
Revenue 1944-1945	$ 7,612,749.03

THE COMPANIES BRANCH AND GENERAL OFFICE

Reconversion to peacetime economy and the expansion of industrial development in the Province has resulted in a substantial increase in the activities of companies as is shown by the following table of companies incorporated and registrations effected during each of the past three calendar years:

	Calendar Years 1944	1945	1946
Number of Alberta Company Incorporations.....	170	285	408
Number of Foreign Company Registrations.....	32	30	50

There has also been a substantial increase in the number of applications received from companies for supplementary certificates respecting reorganization of capital, alteration of objects and articles, etc., and an unprecedented number of inquiries as to the status of companies and for information from our records respecting existing companies.

Incorporations effected under statutes other than The Companies Act are as shown below:

	Calendar Years 1945	1946
The Societies Act.....	76	109
The Co-operative Associations Act...	30	27
The Credit Union Act.....	19	15
The Religious Societies' Lands Act..	20	17
The Cemetery Act.....	4	5

During the calendar year 1946, 213 persons were granted a change of name under The Change of Name Act as compared with 127 the previous year. 1,261 Claims of Lien under The Garagemen's Lien Act were filed in 1946 as compared with 910 the previous year.

MOTOR VEHICLE BRANCH

Registrations show a marked increase in Motor Vehicles operating the fiscal year 1946-1947. This is due to the fact new cars are being manufactured and released and that gasoline rationing is no longer in effect. It is to be expected that accidents would increase in like proportion and the schedule hereunder supports the expectation. Total number of accidents in the Cities of Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat exceeds that of the remainder of the Province being chiefly due to traffic conditions. Monthly records of accidents show an increase of approximately 65% for the period October to December 1946, inclusive. This should be accredited chiefly to weather and road conditions and to some extent the Christmas and New Year holiday activities. Our records show that accidents decrease appreciably after the turn of the year.

Fatal accidents during the fiscal year total 32 whilst the period April 1st, 1946 to December 31st, 1946 accounted for 51 persons. This is an increase of approximately 60%.

During the month of November the Department together with the Highway Traffic Board broadcast safety hints to drivers and Motor Vehicle driving regulations in the form of six one minute announcements over each of the Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Grande Prairie Radio Stations. It is proposed to broadcast similar announcements during the month of February and further broadcasts with information regarding the issuance of 1947-1948 licenses. At the request of the Alberta Motor Association the Department has undertaken to issue a "safety measures" pamphlet, prepared by the Alberta Motor Association, to all applicants for 1947-1948 drivers' licenses.

Generally speaking accidents resulted from:-

Excessive speed.

Careless and negligent driving.

Careless winter driving.

Negligence at railway crossings.

Neglecting precautions to offset winter hazards.

Passing on hills and curves.

Childred playing on streets and roadways.

Careless motor cycle and bicycle operators.

Passing standing street cars.

Careless pedestrians.

Vehicles with improper lighting.

Motor Vehicles following too closely.

Motor Vehicles backing from parking places.

Poor visibility due to:-

Sun glare.

Dust.

Wind and Rain.

Snow and Sleet.

Dirty windshields etc.

Drivers fatigue and operating under the influence.

Poor Mechanical condition of Motor Vehicle.

Blowouts.

Licenses Issued as per Fiscal Year

	1945-1946	1944-1945
Passenger Cars	89,789	91,500
Motor Cycles	760	912
Dealers Plates....	513	489
Drivers Licenses	162,055	152,357

Licenses Issued April 1st, 1946 to December 31st, 1946 (9 months)

Passenger Cars.....	93,311
Motor Cycles.....	980
Dealers Plates.....	857
Drivers Licenses.....	174,091

Convictions as per Fiscal Year 1945-1946.

	"V. & H.T.A."	SECTION 285 "Criminal Code"
Calgary.....	451	64
Edmonton.....	475	123
Lethbridge.....	197	2
Medicine Hat.....	66	11
All Others.....	1,441	200
	2,630	400

Convictions from April 1st, 1946 to December 31st, 1946 (9 months)

	"V. & H.T.A."	SECTION 285 "Criminal Code"
Calgary.....	894	86
Edmonton.....	597	93
Lethbridge.....	206	nil
Medicine Hat.....	55	26
All Others.....	1,189	171
	2,941	376

Accidents as per Fiscal Year 1945-1946

Accidents all classes.....	3,208
Accidents where damages exceed $25.00.....	2,882
Fatal Accidents.....	30
Persons killed in fatal accidents.....	32
Persons injured in Motor Vehicle accidents.....	1,245
Convictions under Section 285 (4) "Criminal Code of Canada", (Intoxicated in charge of Motor Vehicle)...	38
Drivers Licenses suspended.....	63
Persons required to file Financial Responsibility... Insurance.....	99
Judgements where damages exceed $100.00.....	2

Accidents from April 1st, 1946 to December 31st, 1946 (9 months)

Accidents, all classes	3,574
Accidents where damages exceed $25.00	3,002
Fatal Accidents	47
Persons killed in fatal accidents	51
Persons injured in Motor Vehicle accidents	1,267
Convictions under Section 285 (4) "Criminal Code of Canada", (Intoxicated in charge of Motor Vehicle)	23
Drivers Licenses suspended	66
Persons required to file Financial Responsibility Insurance	74
Judgements where damages exceed $100.00	nil

FUEL OIL TAX ACT

For the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1946.

Total sales increased appreciably during the period being some 13,000,000 gallons over that of the previous year. This was chiefly due to the discontinuance of Gasoline Rationing, August, 1945, together with the normal increase in sales.

Gallons sold at seven cents tax	57,792,077.1
Gallons sold (purple coloured) at one cent net tax	62,979,955.85
Gallons sold by permit at one cent net tax	8,426
Total Sales	120,780,458.95

For the nine months ending December 31st, 1946

Gallons sold at seven cents tax	55,686,896.90
Gallons sold (purple coloured) at one cent net tax	67,599,845.60
Gallons sold by permit at one cent net tax	89,598
Total Sales	123,376,340.5

With January, February and March of the current fiscal year to be reported gallonage should be approximately another twenty million gallons.

Net Revenue for the fiscal year was.....$ 4,463,196.30
Net Revenue for the previous fiscal year was..... 3,808,155.28

Increase fiscal year 1945-1946 .....$ 655,041.02

Net Revenue for the nine months ending December 31st, 1946 is $4,375,490.80. It is expected that with the three months to be reported Net Revenue will be approximately $5,500,000.00.

FIRE PREVENTION ACT

An increase is noted in fires and property loss for the year 1945 there being 2,138 fires with a loss of $2,208,120.00. This represents an increase of 504 fires and a loss of $311,836.00 over that recorded the previous year. Loss for the year 1946 is not yet available as complete reports are not filed until the end of February. There is no doubt, however, in view of the information we have at hand, the loss for 1946 will be even greater. This is no reflection on the Department or on the work done by the office of the Fire Commissioner as I may say that the fire loss ratio has increased everywhere in the Dominion and in the United States of America. Fortunately fires and loss have not been nearly as bad in this Province as in Eastern Canada and the United States of America where lately there has been many disastrous conflagrations and many fatalities. Fire Prevention Agencies everywhere anticipate the situation will continue unsatisfactory for several years at least, in fact it is expected to get worse, and steps are thus being taken to cope with the situation as much as possible. The staff of the Fire Prevention Branch of this Department has been increased from three to six inspectors, and extra equipment supplied to enable them to carry on their duties as effectively as possible. The province has been divided into three districts, north, central and south, and a new office opened at Lethbridge. With a view to further education of the public, a motion picture and screen

have been purchased, and a motion picture film library (16mm.) is being established, and lectures and fire prevention films are to be shown, commencing this spring, in schools throughout the Province.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of towns, villages and hamlets visited, and Orders to Remedy Conditions issued, from a fire prevention standpoint, both written and verbal orders, while requests for special investigations of entire communities and of public buildings are being received to an extent that it is difficult to meet them all; but you may rest assured that everything is being done that is possible to give effective and efficient service to the public. The need for investigation of fires of suspicious origin is again being felt, and the duties of the branch in this respect are being given careful attention.

The loss of life by fire in Alberta in 1945 was less than in the previous year, but increased from thirty to forty-five in 1946.

THE ALBERTA INSURANCE ACT

The premiums of all classes were much larger in 1945 as compared to the previous year, which indicated a good business year insofar as insurance was concerned. Losses were higher, but in practically all cases showed a substantial profit. Particularly did this apply to life insurance. Approximately the same number of companies were licensed both in 1945 and 1946, with only a very few withdrawals or additions. A very careful check was made during the year of agents doing business and licenses obtained for both insurance agents and adjusters. Quite a number of complaints respecting unsatisfactory adjustment of losses were investigated by the Superintendent, while in several cases adjustments and revisions were made on our recommendation.

In 1946 the provisions of the Insurance Act in respect to Advisory Boards for the consideration of applications for license were brought into effect, and twenty-three Board meetings were held between February 15th and the end of the year. In the neighborhood of eighty applications were either declined or withdrawn, all with a view to eliminating undesirable agents for the protection of the public and in the interests of the insurance business. This practice and action by the Department has received the unanimous approval of the insurance fraternity, as witnessed by articles contained in the Insurance News and by letters received from various sources. Some prosecutions were instituted during the year for infractions of the Act.

REAL ESTATE AGENT'S LICENSING ACT

Similar to the Insurance Act, an amendment was made to the present statute last year by Order in Council, providing for the setting up of Advisory Boards to consider applications for agent's and salesman's licenses. A stricter enforcement of the Act was also made during the year; eleven Advisory Boards were held, and fourteen applications refused, while a number were withdrawn. Several investigations were undertaken during 1946 in the matter of complaints registered against agents or salesmen and in all cases thorough inquiries were made and remedies effected where possible. An entirely new Real Estate Agent's Licensing Act has been drafted and is being proposed this year with a view to enactment at the 1947 session of the Legislature.

AMUSEMENTS ACT

Licenses issued during the calendar year 1946:-

Entertainment Halls	734
Theatres	152
Travelling Shows	36
Itinerant Exhibitors	37
Film Exchanges	10

Amusement Tax

Revenue and Admissions during calendar year 1946:-

City	Revenue 1946	Admissions 1946	Admissions 1945
Calgary	$103,872.02	4,185,095	4,090,777
Edmonton	92,217.58	4,031,480	3,896,429
Lethbridge	17,327.69	747,313	739,592
Medicine Hat	12,147.74	498,116	507,611
All Other Places	120,318.12	3,714,667	3,321,904
TOTAL	$345,883.15	13,176,671	12,556,313

Pari-Mutuel Tax

Net Tax received on Pari-Mutuel Betting calendar year 1946:-

Calgary	$ 45,879.55
Edmonton	49,414.80
	$ 95,294.35

THEATRES BRANCH

Table No. 1

TABULATION OF PLANS SURVEYED, PLACES INSPECTED AND NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE UNDER THE THEATRE REGULATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR APRIL 1st, 1945 to MARCH 31st, 1946.

Number of plans surveyed	27
New places recommended for license	28
Number of places Inspected	70
Recommendations re wiring	60
Recommendations re Fire Precautions	59
Recommendations re Exits	58
Recommendations re Aisles and Seating	33
Recommendations re Ventilation and Sanitation	50

Table No. 2

TABULATION OF PROJECTION ROOM AND PROJECTORS INSPECTED AND RECOMMENDATIONS MADE UNDER THE THEATRE REGULATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR APRIL 1st, 1945 to MARCH 31st, 1946.

Projection rooms inspected	70
Number of projectors inspected	136
Recommendations for repairs	94
Projectors condemned as defective	24
Recommendations re wiring	56
Recommendations re Fire Precautions	64
Recommendations re Ventilation	37
Number of projection rooms condemned	14

Table No. 3

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATIONS TOGETHER WITH NUMBER AND CLASS OF CERTIFICATES ISSUED TO PROJECTIONISTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR APRIL 1st, 1945 to MARCH 31st, 1946.

Number of Licenses Issued

First	126
Second	136
Third	103
Apprentice	45
Provisory Permit	121
Narrow Gauge	100
TOTAL	631

Number of Examinations Held

First	9
Second	19
Third	25
TOTAL	53

Temporary Permits Granted..... 26

CENSORSHIP BRANCH

During the calendar year 1946 this branch censored films as indicated hereunder:-

208	- First Print Features	3,045¼	Reels
414	- First Print Shorts	512	Reels
261½	- First Print News	261½	Reels
79	- First Print Episode Serials	163	Reels
180	- Second Print Features	1,664	Reels
55	- Second Print Shorts	94	Reels
581	- Second Print News	581	Reels
833	- Trailers		
436	- 16mm - First Print Soundies	1,729	Reels
15	- 16mm - Second Print Soundies	73	Reels
1	- Appeal (Allotment Wives)	7	Reels

Refusals	2
Passed "U"	52%
Overall "U"	75.4%
British Features	11
Russian Features	6
Eliminations	116

Features Refused

May ..... Allotment Wives

November ..... Decoy

FILM COMMISSIONER

In view of the numerous protests received by the Government regarding many of the 16 mm films being shown to the public, also the fact that the 16 mm film is coming more generally into use throughout the Province, it has been considered necessary to appoint a Film Commissioner.

The Film Commissioner will be responsible for administering a policy in regard to all non-commercial films for showing to public audiences, the co-ordination of all non-commercial film agencies operating within the Province and the establishing of and operating of a Government Film Bank, the facilities of which will be systematically extended to any other agencies wishing to use this service.

It is also the intention that all films, both commercial and non-commercial, which are brought into the Province for showing to any public audience shall be required to pass through the Alberta Board of Censors' Office. This is already provided for under certain sections of the Amusements Act and the Regulations thereunder. The Film Commissioner will be responsible that any person or film exchange, Government or otherwise, importing or handling 16 mm non-commercial films submit

same to the Board of Censors to be stamped with a stamp indicating its approval.

Respectfully submitted.

R.C. Adams.
Deputy Provincial Secretary.

RCA:KH